



# VMR Belle Chasse

## Command Philosophy and Guidance



The mission of Marine Transport Squadron Belle Chasse is to provide time-sensitive transport of high-priority troops and cargo to, within, and between theaters of war. Our service enables the war- and peacetime readiness, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness of entities within the USMC and across the Department of Defense. Everything we do must reflect our dedication to this mission. Within our walls, we will focus on our people, professionalism, and perseverance to ensure continued mission success.

**People:** The adage “Mission First, People Always” has never been more important than it is today. As Marines, you have shown a rare dedication to a life of service, and each of you is a vital resource to our nation and her defense. Within the VMR Belle Chasse family, we will:

- Treat everyone with dignity and respect. Always. Teams cannot exist any other way.
- Mentor and seek mentorship. We will pass on what we have learned.
- Listen to and help anyone, anytime. I expect and demand this at every level of leadership, and I expect those in need of assistance to take the offered hand.

**Professionalism:** The capability that each of you provides is vital to our success as a team. Individual readiness is every Marine’s responsibility, requiring MOS proficiency, physical and mental fitness, and harmony between personal and professional responsibilities. At VMR Belle Chasse, we will:

- Strive for technical mastery. Never let it be said that we failed our mission or lost a member of our team because we didn’t do our homework.
- Be men and women of ethical character. The Marine Corps’ core values of honor, courage and commitment provide the ethical benchmark we must uphold as Marines.
- Execute our mission safely and by-the-book. Safety is a core tenet of all that we do and enables us to accomplish our mission reliably and efficiently.

**Perseverance:** Grit beats talent every time. Strive for daily self-improvement and demand the same of others. I expect each of us to:

- Recognize that no skill – as a logistician, administrator, pilot or anything else – is bestowed at birth. Talent only becomes skill through effort, and the process is often painful. Embrace it.
- Lean into our mistakes and learn from them.
- Understand you are your own best teacher. Many have come before us, and have left doctrine, orders, books, etc. for us to learn from. Before you assume you can’t do something, read.
- Follow through. Don’t admire partially completed work, finish it.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William T. Graves Jr.".

Lieutenant Colonel William T. Graves Jr., USMCR  
Commanding Officer, VMR Belle Chasse